

Message Text

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14

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-10 NEA-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 SAM-01 OMB-01 SCA-01

AID-05 DPW-01 ORM-02 DHA-02 /127 W

----- 121245

R 220341Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

INFO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 5855

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

UNCLAS BANGKOK 26523

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, MILI, US, VN, TH

SUBJ: SITUATION REPORT: RETURN OF REMAINS BY DEMOCRATIC
REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

THE FOLLOWING TEL REC'D FM CDR JCRC CAMP SAMAE SAN THAI/OPS
DATED 21 DEC SENT ACTION BANGKOK REPEATED FOR YOUR INFO

QUOTE

CINCPAC FOR J318/J01

A. TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN CPT. IRBY JCRC OPERATIONS AND
LTC BANKS, CINCPAC J318 ON 21 DEC 75.

1. IN ACCORDANCE WITH REF A. THE FOLLOWING REPORT IS SUBMITTED.
2. A THREE MAN JCRC / CILTHAI TEAM DEPARTED UTAPAO RTNB AT 200800
DEC 75. THE TEAM MET WITH THE CODEL AT THE DUSIT THANI HOTEL BAN-
GKOK, AT 201500 DEC 75 FOR DISCUSSION/FINAL COORDINATION FOR THE
PENDING VISIT TO HANOI.
3. THE CODEL WITH 3 JCRC REPRESENTATIVES DEPARTED DON MUANG AIR-
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PORT, BANGKOK AT 210740 DEC 75. THE PARTY ARRIVED AT VIENTIANE,

LAOS AT 210840. DOCEL MET WITH AMEMBASSY PERSONNEL AT THE AIRPORT AND DEPARTED THAT LOCATION AT 210930. THE TEAM ARRIVED AT HANOI, DRV AT 211015. COL. LUTHER VAUGH, SENIOR JCRC REPRESENTATIVE, REMAINED IN LAOS AND WILL REJOIN THE CODEL ON THEIR RETURN TRIP, 23 DEC 75.

4. THREE SETS OF REMAINS, IN TEAKWOOD BOXES WERE TURNED OVER FROM THE DRV TO THE UNHCR AND THE AMERICAN DELEGATION AT APPROXIMATELY 211145 DEC 75 AT GIA LAM AIRPORT. REMAINS VIEWED AT HANOI BY CIL ID SPECIALIST. A BRIEF CEREMONY COMMENCED AT PLANESIDE AT WHICH TIME THE REMAINS WERE TURNED OVER FROM THE CODEL TO THE JCRC/CIL REPRESENTATIVES. THE REMAINS WERE PLACED INSIDE TRANSFER CASES ABOARD THE UNHCR AIRCRAFT.

5. THE JCRC/CIL REPRESENTATIVES DEPARTED GIA LAM AIRPORT WITH THE REMAINS AT 211250 DEC 75.

6. AIRCRAFT ARRIVED DON MUANG AIRPORT, BANGKOK AT 211430 DEC 75. AIRCRAFT DELAYED FOR 30 MINUTES BEFORE TAXIING TO MILITARY SIDE DON MUANG DUE TO CUSTOMS CHECK.

7. A TRANSFER OF THE REMAINS FROM THE CIVILIAN CHARTERED AIRCRAFT TO A USAF C-130 AIRCRAFT WAS CONDUCTED AT 211510 DEC 75.

8. THE TRANSFER WAS CONDUCTED WITH DIGNITY BUT WITHOUT CEREMONY AS FOLLOWS:

A. THREE TEAMS OF FOUR ENLISTED BODY BEARERS REMOVED FLAG DRAPED TRANSFER CASES FROM THE UNHCR CHARTERED AIRCRAFT AND MOVED THEM ONBOARD THE C-130 AIRCRAFT.

B. FOUR JCRC OFFICERS, JOINED BY A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE UNHCR, AND THE DEPUTY CHIEF OF MISSION, AMERICAN EMBASSY, BANGKOK FORMED A MILITARY/CIVILIAN HONOR GUARD AT THE TAIL RAMP OF THE C-130 AIRCRAFT.

9. AIRCRAFT DEPARTED DON MUANG AIRPORT AT 211553 DEC 75.

10. AIRCRAFT ARRIVED UTAPAO RTNB 211630 DEC 75.

11. FLAG DRAPED TRANSFER CASES WERE REMOVED FROM AIRCRAFT WITHOUT CEREMONY AND TRANSPORTED TO THE CENTRAL IDENTIFICATION LABORATORY, THAILAND, IMMEDIATELY UPON ARRIVAL AT UTAPAO.

12. THE BANGKOK AND UTAPAO OPERATION DOCUMENTED BY BOTH STILL AND MOTION PICTURE PHOTOGRAPHY.

13. MEDIA COVERAGE CONSISTED OF THE FOLLOWING:

A. HANOI: A SWISS REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNHCR FILMED EVENTS AT HANOI, IN BOTH STILL AND MOTION PHOTOGRAPHY. THE FILM WAS PROVIDED TO NBC BY HONG KONG FOR POOL RELEASE TO NETWORKS. OTHER UNKNOWN PRESS REPRESENTATIVES WERE PRESENT.

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B. BANGKOK: CBS-TV, NBC-TV, AP, UPI TN, BISNEWS, FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW.

C. UTAPAO: NO MEDIA

14. PRESENT PLANS CALL FOR RETURN OF THE CODEL TO BANGKOK ON THE AFTERNOON OF 23 DEC 75. THE CODEL WILL THEN PROCEED BY U-21 AIRCRAFT TO UTAPAO RTNB/CAMP SAMAE SAN FOR BRIEFINGS AND DISCUSSIONS WITH JCRC AND CILTHAI. THE CODEL WILL DEPART RTNB FOR CONUS, DURING THE EVENING (LOCAL) 23 DECEMBER 1975.

15. FINAL REPORT TO FOLLOW. UNQUOTE
WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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